

## REPORT.

*July, 1907.*

THE CHIEF CONSTABLE,  
TORONTO.

### *Re* PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR DEALING WITH JUVENILE OFFENDERS.

SIR :

In accordance with your instructions directing me to furnish a report, for the information of the Police Commissioners, upon the manner of dealing with Juvenile Offenders that has prevailed in Toronto for many years past, I beg to submit the following :

Some twenty years ago what is known as the Staff Department of the Toronto Police Force was organized for the purpose of dealing, among other matters, with neglected children, and having been in charge of the Department since that time I have been in a specially favourable position for observing the results and effects of the course pursued by the Police Magistrates, Children's Aid Society, Salvation Army, and other agencies in the treatment of youthful delinquency. This class of work has been carried on in a manner as free from publicity as possible in order that the private concerns of families should not become matters of public notoriety. The wisdom of this policy will be manifest from the fact that the great majority of cases dealt with are of a private and extremely delicate nature, any allusion to which, even by implication, might be very hurtful to the many families and individuals assisted and benefited. The great majority of these cases are not only kept out of Court but are kept strictly private. Hence a certain amount of mystery has intentionally surrounded much of the Department's work,